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Catfish

Agricultural Statistics Board
National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

SEP

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ORIGINAL

CATFISH PROCESSING UP 12 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during August totaled 19.2 million pounds (8720 metric tons) round weight, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board, up 12 percent from August 1985.

The August average price paid to growers was 63 cents per pound, 9 cents below the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during August totaled 10.6 million pounds (4800 metric tons), up 8 percent from the comparable month in 1985. Sales of whole fish represented 45 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 37 percent. The remaining 18 percent were mostly steaks and nuggets. Ice pack sales were 48 percent of the total amount sold.

The August average prices received by processors for whole fish were $1.49 per pound for ice pack and $1.56 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during July totaled 543 thousand pounds (250 metric tons), 76 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were 38 percent below the amount imported a year earlier. Import data were compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Processing data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

Corbin Fish Farm
Country Skillet (Con Agra)
Crawford Catfish Acres
Delta Catfish Processors
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.
Fish Breeders of Idaho
Georgia's King Catfish
Grain Fed Fish, Ltd.
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.
Gulf South Fish Sales
Humphreys Co. Catfish
King Kat, Inc.
Le Flore - Bolivar
Pride of the Pond
Prime Line Catfish Co.
Seminole Brand
Simmons Farm-Raised
Southern Pride Catfish
Valley Grande Catfish

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FARM - RAISED CATFISH, 1985-86
QUANTITY PROCESSED AND PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, REPORTED BY MAJOR PROCESSORS: AND U.S. IMPORTS

MONTH	ROUND WEIGHT PROCESSED				AVERAGE PRICE PAID TO PRODUCERS 1/		IMPORTS OF CATFISH 2/	
	MONTHLY		CUMULATIVE					
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
	THOUSAND POUNDS				DOLLARS PER POUND		THOUSAND POUNDS	
JAN	13,429	19,183	13,429	19,183	.67	.70	589	383
FEB	17,166	19,968	30,595	39,151	.69	.70	425	947
MAR	18,290	18,392	48,885	57,543	.73	.72	976	610
APR	16,474	16,248	65,359	73,791	.78	.74	602	954
MAY	17,432	16,163	82,791	89,954	.77	.72	214	646
JUN	15,897	16,000	98,688	105,954	.77	.68	928	787
JUL	14,311	16,344	112,999	122,298	.76	.66	871	543
AUG	17,130	19,220	130,129	141,518	.72	.63	423	
SEP	16,638		146,767		.71		832	
OCT	16,861		163,628		.70		96	
NOV	14,625		178,253		.70		603	
DEC	13,363		191,616		.70		501	

CATFISH PROCESSORS' SALES VOLUME, AVERAGE PRICE AND ENDING INVENTORY, CATFISH FOR AUGUST 1986

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/	FILLETS 4/	OTHER 5/	TOTAL
FRESH				
QUANTITY (000) LB	3,208	1,460	378	5,046
PRICE ($ / LB)	1.49	2.56	1.50	1.79
INVENTORY(000) LB	258	150	59	467
FROZEN				
QUANTITY(000) LB	1,531	2,498	1,508	5,537
PRICE ($ / LB)	1.56	2.54	1.78	2.05
INVENTORY(000) LB	877	1,398	806	3,081

1/ PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR FISH DELIVERED TO PROCESSING PLANT.
2/ DATA FURNISHED BY U.S. BUREAU OF CENSUS.
3/ DRESSED WEIGHT, (HEAD, VISERA AND SKIN REMOVED).
4/ INCLUDES REGULAR, SHANK AND STRIP FILLETS; EXCLUDES ANY BREADED PRODUCT.
5/ INCLUDES ALL PRODUCTS NOT ALREADY REPORTED, INCLUDING WEIGHT OF BREADING AND ADDED INGREDIENTS.